

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~striketrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please AMEND claims 11, 12, 13, 14 and 19 in accordance with the following:

1-10 (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended): A speech processing system comprising:

a plurality of modules of respectively different types, said plurality of modules comprising a plurality of speech recognition and a plurality of speech output modules for respectively different types of speech output; and

a selector supplied with an input signal containing information identifying a type needed to process said input signal, said type ~~consisting of at least one~~ relating to type of said types speech recognition and said types of speech output needed to process said input signal, said selector being connected to said plurality of modules and routing said input signal to ~~at least one~~ of said modules ~~of~~ while excluding said input signal from another of said modules, the selector routing said signal based on the type identified in said input signal for processing said input signal only in said ~~at least one~~ of said modules to which said input signal is routed.

12. (Currently amended) A speech processing system as claimed in claim 11 wherein said selector controls processing of said input signal in said ~~at least one~~ of said modules to which said input signal is routed.

13. (Currently amended) A speech processing system as claimed in claim 11 wherein a group of said speech recognition modules in said plurality of speech recognition modules share common pre-processing features, and wherein said plurality of modules further includes a pre-processing module, connected to said speech recognition modules in said group, and wherein said selector, if said ~~at least one~~ of said modules to which said input signal is routed is a speech recognition module in said group, routes said input signal to said ~~at least one~~ of said speech recognition modules in said group through said pre-processing module.

14. (currently amended) A speech processing system as claimed in claim 11 wherein

a group of said speech output module in said plurality of speech output modules share common post-processing features, and wherein said plurality of modules further includes a post-processing module, connected to said speech output modules in said group, and wherein said selector, if said ~~at least one~~ of said modules to which said input signal is routed is a speech output module in said group, routes said input signal through said post-processing module.

15. (Original) A speech processing system as claimed in claim 11 further comprising a dialog sequence control connected to said selector for controlling a dialog between said selector and a user.

16. (Original) A speech processing system as claimed in claim 15 wherein said dialog sequence control generates said input signal.

17. (Original) A speech processing system as claimed in claim 11 wherein said plurality of speech recognition modules comprise a speech recognition module for individual numerical recognition, a speech recognition module for recognition of chains of numerals, a speech recognition module for recognition of words from a limited vocabulary, a speech recognition module for recognition of an individual word with an unlimited vocabulary, a speech recognition of an individual word with an unlimited vocabulary, a speech recognition of speech spoken in a flowing manner with an unlimited vocabulary, a speech recognition module for recognition of predetermined word combinations, a speech recognition module for key word recognition, a speech recognition module for alphabet recognition, a speech recognition module for sound sequence recognition, a speech recognition module for speech recognition module for speech recognition, and a speech recognition module for DTMF recognition.

18. (Original) A speech processing system as claimed in claim 11 wherein said plurality of speech output modules comprise a speech output module for output of predetermined stored speech components, a speech output module for output of predetermined stored speech components, a speech output module for output of combined individual predetermined stored speech components, a speech output module for output of words synthesized from stored phone names, and a speech output module for output of DTMF tones.

19. (Currently Amended) A speech processing method comprising ~~the steps of:~~
providing a plurality of modules of respectively different types including speech

recognition modules for respectively different types of speech recognition and speech output modules for respectively different types of speech output;

analyzing an input signal to be processed to identify ~~at least one said type~~ a type needed to process said input signal; and

routing said input signal to ~~at least one of said modules having a~~ the type ~~corresponding to the type~~ needed to process said input signal, and processing said input signal only in said ~~least one of said modules~~ to which said input signal is routed.

20. (Original) A speech processing method as claimed in claim 19 comprising the additional step of:

If said input signal is routed to at least one of said speech recognition modules in said plurality of modules, pre-processing said input signal before processing said input signal in said at least one of said speech recognition modules.

21. (Original) A speech processing method as claimed in claim 19 comprising the additional step of:

if said input signal is routed to at least one of said speech output modules in said plurality of modules, post-processing said input signal after processing said input signal in said at least one of said speech output modules.